



Canyon Creek Complex Evening Update Friday, August 28, 2015

Fire Information: (541) 820-3643 or (541) 820-3633
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Facebook: www.facebook.com/canyoncreekfireoregon and/or
www.facebook.com/malheurnationalforest
Malheur NF www.fs.usda.gov/malheur/
Inciweb: http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4495/
Twitter: @CanyonCreekFire and/or @MalheurNF

JOHN DAY, OR – Fire managers have been strategically moving resources along the northern flank in order to efficiently use the available resources in priority suppression areas. Their primary focus remains the protection of structures at the north flank of the fire in the Little Dog, Pine, and Indian Creek areas. Crews continued strengthening existing firelines and constructed additional contingency lines should the fire move in that direction. Fire managers are considering alternatives in order to address potential fire movements due to predicted strong winds on Saturday.

Night shift crews will continue the day's activities by providing structure protection, securing firelines and monitoring fire activity in Pine and Indian Creek areas.

Aerial resources were utilized today to effectively reinforce the dozer lines and pre-treated areas today. Similar air resources will be available for use tomorrow if winds permit.

Additional fire activity in the Road's End area caused the fire to spot into the Lake Creek drainage near Indian Butte. Firefighters utilizing roads and existing firelines will conduct small burnout operation tonight in order to hold the eastern flank. Planned actions to suppress spot fires include aerial using helicopters and buckets to support direct attack by firefighters.

Oregon National Guard troops are fully settled at the Lake Creek Organizational Camp and working on the southeast flank of the fire. They will continue supporting suppression efforts and conducting mop up operations.

The west and southern flanks of the fire are in a patrol status and repair of firelines has begun.

The incident management team held a community meeting in Prairie City today to provide the town a fire update and an opportunity to ask questions of agency representatives. Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer explained evacuation notices and procedures. Evacuation notifications will be done in person by representatives of the Grant County Sheriff's Office. Residents were advised to be prepared regardless of their evacuation level using the Ready, Set, Go protocol.

Varying levels of smoke continued to linger over the complex and the surrounding communities throughout the day and it is also expected for tomorrow. Two portable smoke monitors arrived August 24 and are deployed; one monitor is placed in Prairie City and the other in Seneca. Real-time smoke readings are available at <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com>.

Forest Closure related to the fire is currently in effect: the Canyon Creek Complex Fire Closure and the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness. Copies of the closure order and map are available at www.fs.usda.gov/detail/malheur/home/?cid=stelprd3845529.

Please be advised of fire traffic and smoky conditions throughout the area. Forest officials ask that the public stay clear of all fire-related activities.

Additional Information

CR 62 and the 16 Road are open to through traffic. Highway 395 is open to traffic, however, firefighters, equipment and the power company are working along the side of the road and drivers should expect short delays. Drivers are urged to use caution and encouraged to drive with headlights on through these areas. Do not stop and go into burned areas for safety reasons.

The Malheur National Forest is bringing in a burned area emergency response team (BAER) to develop a restoration plan.

Public Safety Alert: If traveling through the area that has burned, please do not leave your vehicles and walk through ashes due to hot spots, stump holes and falling trees.

Ready, Set, Go – Given the current weather and fire conditions in Grant County, it is a good idea to be prepared for emergencies. Visit <http://wildlandfirersg.org/> for further information about how to be prepared and what to pack for emergency evacuations. The American Red Cross also has important information regarding emergency preparedness. Go to <http://www.redcross.org/support/emergency-preparedness> for further tips and suggestions.

Additional area fire information can be found at JDIDC - BICC (John Day Interagency Dispatch Center - Burns Interagency Communication Center) sites online at <http://bicc-jdidc.org/index.shtml>.

Fire activity will likely have an effect on hunting this season. For more information, visit www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/

For the latest Malheur National Forest news, please visit www.fs.usda.gov/malheur or follow the Forest on Facebook at U.S. Forest Service-Malheur National Forest or on Twitter at [@MalheurNF](https://twitter.com/MalheurNF).

Reporting

To report a fire, contact the John Day Interagency Dispatch Center at (541) 575-1321 or the Burns Interagency Communication Center at (541) 573-1000.



See separate evacuations update.